

the Trustees of the British Museum should long ago have been bestowed on him.

It remains to add that Dr. Sharpe was an honorary LL.D. of the University of Aberdeen, a Fellow of the Linnean and Zoological Societies, a Member of the British Ornithologists' Union, and a recipient of the gold medal for Science, bestowed on him in 1891 by H.I.M. the Emperor of Austria.

J. E. H.

XVI.—*Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.*

[Continued from p. 215.]

29. '*Annals of Scottish Natural History.*'

[The Annals of Scottish Natural History. A Quarterly Magazine, with which is incorporated 'The Scottish Naturalist.' Edinburgh: October 1909–January 1910.]

The October number contains the report on Scottish Ornithology for 1908 by Mr. J. Paterson, wherein he calls attention to a remarkable period of arrested migration of birds in April, followed by an inrush at the end of that month and in the early days of May. Fair Isle has again proved its excellence as an observatory, and furnished the second British example of the Subalpine Warbler, as well as what was supposed to be the first record for the kingdom of Eversmann's Willow-Warbler, while Savi's Warbler, the Icterine Warbler, the Alpine Accentor, and the Red-throated Pipit were new to Scotland. Careful observation at the Isle of May also resulted in the capture of a Scarlet Grosbeak, but this was a small matter compared with the occurrence of a new British bird on the same island on October 19th, 1909, as recorded by Misses Baxter and Rintoul in the January number. This was *Saxicola pleschanka* (= *S. morio*), of which a female of the white-throated form in autumnal plumage was secured and submitted to Mr. Eagle Clarke for inspection: it is now described, with a coloured plate. Further notes on the Isle of May are contributed by the two excellent observers already mentioned, who record at least

ten male and female examples of the Yellow-browed Warbler, three Shore Larks, two Little Buntings, a Barred Warbler, a Scarlet Grosbeak, and a Red-breasted Flycatcher. They consider that they obtained very good results on the whole, though birds were somewhat scarce.

In both October and January Mr. Eagle Clarke contributes articles on the recent remarkable immigration of Crossbills to Britain, which are of much interest: in October we have a notice of Sabine's Gull from Shetland, in January records of two forms of Redpoll, the Northern Bullfinch and Tengmalm's Owl from the same islands, and also of two Yellow-browed Warblers from East Ross-shire, these being the first known to have occurred on the Scottish mainland.

30. 'Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. Series iii. Vol. i. Nos. 1-4. November 1909-February 1910.]

This magazine continues to flourish under its new editor Mr. Frank Finn, and there seems to be no lack of contributors, most of them well known to its readers. Taking the more general articles in order, we have Mr. Seth Smith continuing his reminiscences of his trip to Australia with an account of the National Park in New South Wales, its Lyre-Birds, Satin Bower-Birds and other uncommon species. The Duchess of Bedford writes on the rare Cranes and other birds nesting at Woburn, and notes that Pekin Robins and some other species have bred in a wild state in the Park; Col. Momber discusses the morals of Birds, while Mr. Butler follows with an article on the same subject; and the former also contributes a pleasant paper on the birds of the Riviera.

As regards particular genera or species Mr. Astley discusses *Agapornis taranta* (col. pl.); Mr. Denman describes the displays of *Rhinocetus jubatus* (pl.) and different forms of Hangnests. Mr. C. B. Smith sends notes on the habits of *Strepsilas interpres* and *Arboricola*; Dr. Butler writes on the genus *Nymphicus*; Messrs. Silver and Scherren on the Dartford Warbler; and Mr. Newman on *Turtur decipiens*.

Of species bred in captivity we have *Chalcopsittacus ater*

(Mr. Brook), *Hyphantornis spilonotus* (Mr. Holden), *Ortygospiza polygona* (Mr. Phillipps), *Guiraca cyanea* and *Chera progne* (Mr. Teschemaker), and *Chrysotis bahamensis* (Mr. Bonhote); while Mr. Hopkinson gives an account of *Pæocephalus fuscicollis* both in captivity and in the wild state in West Africa.

Finally, Major Jones describes the "eclipse plumage" of the female of *Casarca variegata* of New Zealand, Mr. Astley writes on a cross between the Australian Crimson and Star Finches, and the Editor contributes further notes on Indian Birds, and on two of the *Anatidæ*.

31. Dawson and Bowles on the Birds of Washington.

[The Birds of Washington: a complete scientific and popular account of the 372 Species of Birds found in the State. By William Leon Dawson, A.M., B.D., of Seattle, assisted by John Hooper Bowles of Tacoma. Two Vols. 4to. Seattle: The Occidental Publishing Co., 1909.]

Two handsome quarto volumes, which have lately reached us, contain a well written and profusely illustrated account of the birds of the State of Washington. This is one of the Pacific States occupying a large area (more than twice the size of Ireland) in the extreme North-western corner of the Great Republic, and is of special interest to Englishmen, as being closely adjacent to British Columbia, which it borders on the south. In fact we suspect that the Avifauna of the State of Washington and of that part of the Dominion of Canada called "British Columbia" are nearly identical, and as, so far as we know, there is no special work on the birds of British Columbia, we ought to thank our American friends very much for preparing this excellent treatise on the birds of the adjoining and similar district.

The two volumes, as we have already said, are "profusely illustrated." More than three hundred "original half-tones" of birds and their nests, eggs, and favourite haunts, chiefly derived from photographs taken by the authors themselves or their friends, ornament these pages, besides many other drawings in the text and a series of coloured plates prepared by Mr. Allan Brooks. The last named are,

in some cases, perhaps a little too gaudily coloured, but the numerous figures in the text are mostly excellent, and render the work quite a picture-book. The paper and print are likewise of first quality, and it is obvious that no pains or expense has been spared to make the book as complete as possible.

After a short preface Messrs. Dawson and Bowles pass on to the histories of the 372 birds which they recognise as belonging to the Avifauna of the State of Washington. They waste no space in synonyms, but unhesitatingly accept the nomenclature of the American Check-list. But we are glad to see that they do not follow its lead in commencing with the lowest forms of bird-life, but revert to the ordinary practice of beginning at the top of the tree and descending gradually to the bottom. Subspecies are liberally admitted, and in fact treated as of exactly the same rank as the well-marked species, though when it comes to distinguishing one Crow from another by its "clearer voice" we are apt to become a little sceptical as to any real subspecific difference.

Full details respecting the habits and customs of each species follow the technical descriptions, and the ranges in the State as well as the "General Ranges" are distinctly stated. But we regret that no map has been added to the work. Some ignorant people may happen not to know where the "State of Washington" is, and a map supplemented by a description of the physical features of this somewhat remote part of the Great Republic would give them valuable information.

32. *Ghigi on the Silver-Pheasants.*

[Ricerca di sistematica sperimentale sul genere *Gennæus* Wagler. Memoria del Prof. Alessandro Ghigi. Mem. R. Accad. Sc. Bologna, Ser. 6, Tom. vi. Bologna, 1909.]

This memoir treats of the Pheasants of the genus *Gennæus* of Wagler—one of the five genera into which the old genus *Euplocamus* has been divided. Mr. Ogilvie-Grant in the 'Catalogue of Birds' recognised eight species of this group,

which Prof. Ghigi now increases to twenty-six (!) based principally on additions recently made by Mr. Oates*. We may venture to express our doubts whether these species, some of which are based upon very slight characters, are really tenable.

Prof. Ghigi adds chapters on supposed hybrids between the different species, which appear to breed together without any difficulty, and on the distribution of these Pheasants in China, Burma, and Siam, illustrating his essay by an outline map (p. 32).

33. *Grinnell on a new Cow-bird.*

[A new Cow-bird of the genus *Molothrus*, with a Note on the probable relationships of the North American forms. By Joseph Grinnell. University of California Publ. in Zool., viii. p. 275.]

Mr. Grinnell separates, under the name *Molothrus ater artemisiæ*, the form of *Molothrus* found in the "Upper Sonoran and Transition zones of the Great Basin Region of the Western United States" from *M. ater* of the Eastern States, as being somewhat larger and having "a proportionally longer and more slender bill, similar to that of *M. a. obscurus*." Outline drawings are given of the bills of the three subspecies.

34. *Hartert on new African Birds.*

[On some recently discovered African Birds. By Ernst Hartert, Ph.D. Nov. Zool. xvi. p. 333 (1909).]

Africa has not yet ceased to produce marvels, at least in Bird-life, and these marvels not unfrequently find their way to Tring, where there are Ornithologists ready to describe them. Dr. Hartert now gives us further information about *Xenocopsychus ansorgei* (from Mossamedes), *Graueria vittata* (from Baraka in Congoland north-west of L. Tanganyika), *Diaphorophya graueri* (from the forests west of Lake Albert-Edward), and *Lioptilus rufo-cinctus* (from the forest south-east

* See below, p. 367.

of Lake Kivu), all of which are figured by Keulemans after having been previously characterized in the Bull. B. O. C. He also records the receipt of additional examples of *Laniarius graueri* and *L. rubiginosus rudolphi*.

35. Hartert and Venturi on Argentine Birds.

[Notes sur les Oiseaux de la République Argentine. Par E. Hartert et S. Venturi. Nov. Zool. xvi. p. 160 (1909).]

The collection made by M. Venturi, of Buenos Ayres, in various parts of the Argentine Republic, and acquired by the Tring Museum, contains 1115 bird-skins and several thousand eggs. The species have been determined by Mr. Hartert, while M. Venturi has supplied abundant field-notes. The authors have not attempted to make a complete list of Argentine birds, but treat only of the specimens in M. Venturi's collection and in seven other Argentine collections in the Tring Museum. Nevertheless there cannot be very many species omitted, because 509 species and subspecies are enumerated, and Sclater and Hudson's 'Argentine Ornithology' contains only 434 species. The series of interesting field-notes by M. Venturi have been translated from the original Spanish into French, while Dr. Hartert supplies the scientific remarks. The following species and subspecies are described as new:—*Cistothorus platensis tucumanus*, *Anthus hellmayri*, *Phrygilus alaudinus venturii*, *Leptasthenura ægithaloides berlepschi*, *Siptornis steinbachi*, *Picumnus cirrhatus tucumanus*, *Merganetta berlepschi*, *Columba picazuro boliviana*, and *Nothura salvadorii*.

Seventy excellent figures of eggs on two plates accompany the text. The field-notes on the parasitic Cow-birds (*Molothrus*, p. 184) are of special interest.

36. Howard's 'British Warblers.'

[The British Warblers: A History with Problems of their Lives. By H. Eliot Howard. Part 4. London: R. H. Porter, 1909.]

The fourth part of Mr. Howard's excellent monograph of the British Warblers now lies before us, and we are once

more struck by the exceptional beauty of the plates and the thorough treatment of the habits of the species. How thorough this is may be judged from the fact that the letter-press deals with but four species and that the Whitethroat alone occupies twenty-three pages, the Lesser Whitethroat twenty. Of the Siberian Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus tristis*) and the Greenish Willow-Warbler (*P. viridanus*), which do not breed in Britain, only the description and distribution are given, in accordance with the scheme of the work. Among the many points of interest may be mentioned the account of the difference in the songs of various species in different localities, the behaviour of the Lesser Whitethroat when its young are in danger, and several curious habits of the Common Whitethroat, such as the building of extra and useless nests, the habit of removing or even swallowing small leaves dropped into the structure, and so forth ; but it will be evident that these do not represent a tithe of the total information. Coloured plates are given of all the species, and plain plates in the case of the two first-named, to exhibit particular attitudes ; but the plate of eggs which is the frontispiece to this Part is perhaps most striking of all, and gives figures of a well chosen series with admirable fidelity.

37. Migration-Report of the B. O. C.

[Report on the Immigrations of Summer Residents in the Spring of 1908; also Notes on the migratory movements and Records received from light-houses and light-vessels during the autumn of 1907. By the Committee appointed by the British Ornithologists' Club. Bull. B. O. C. vol. xxiv. Nov. 1909; 235 pp.]

The third Report of the Committee of the B. O. C. on Migration has increased in size to a volume of 235 pages. Besides the ordinary reports on the scheduled species in the Spring of 1908, each of which is illustrated by a map, notes are given on the migratory movements observed during the previous autumn. Some of these are of considerable interest, for example those of the Blackbird (*Turdus merula*), which is usually considered a very stay-at-home species.

Yet we learn that in the autumn of 1907 migratory flocks of this bird were noted at many of the light-houses on the east coast, and at St. Catherine's, I. of W. It may be presumed, however, that these were all strangers from the far north, and not deserters from our English gardens, where they seem to be as numerous in winter as in summer.

The list of Light-houses and Light-vessels on which observations were made should have been accompanied by a map, as is always the case in the Danish Report. The exact situation of many of them is unknown (except, perhaps, to special students of migration), and to the names of the meritorious Observers their addresses, surely, should be added, unless the Observers object.

With these slight exceptions we fully approve of the third report of our Migration Committee and thank them for their good work.

38. *Nicholson on the Distribution of Macronyx.*

[The Geographical Distribution of Birds. I. Genus *Macronyx* Swainson. By Francis Nicholson, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U. Manch. Mem. Lit. Phil. Soc. 53. 1909, No. 24.]

This is the first of a proposed series of papers on the distribution of Pipits and Wagtails, which the author has studied for several years. Of the purely Ethiopian genus *Macronyx* 9 species are allowed, while their exact distribution, so far as it is yet known, is set forth and further elucidated by two coloured plates. The most widely spread species is *M. croceus*, which is found in West, East and South Africa, but others are confined to quite limited localities.

39. *Nicoll's 'Three Voyages of a Naturalist.'*

[Three Voyages of a Naturalist, being an Account of many little-known Islands in Three Oceans visited by the 'Valhalla' R.Y.S. By M. J. Nicoll, M.B.O.U. With an Introduction by the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T., F.R.S. Second Edition: Witherby & Co., 1909. (7/6 net).]

We are much pleased to receive a copy of a second edition of Mr. Nicoll's well illustrated and instructive work, which has already been described in our notice of the first edition

(Ibis, 1908, p. 533) but well deserves further mention. Mr. Nicoll had great, in fact almost unequalled opportunities, no doubt, but he did not fail to make good use of them. In the new edition a few corrections have been made, and special attention is called to the remarks about Easter Island in the first edition. It appears that the "mystery of the Pacific" had inhabitants on it when first discovered, but of what race they were is a question not likely to be solved. There is one Land-bird to be found there, probably of a new species, but it would be a long way to go for it—some 2300 miles from the coast of Chili!

We hope that Mr. Nicoll's second edition will soon be exhausted and a third edition called for.

40. *Nicoll on Birds observed in the Giza Zoological Gardens.*

[Additions to the List of Wild Birds which have visited the Giza Zoological Gardens. By Michael J. Nicoll, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U. (Reprinted from the Cairo Scientific Journal, No. 37, Vol. iii., October 1909.)]

In a former paper (*cf.* 'Ibis,' 1909, p. 543) Messrs. Flower and Nicoll gave us a List of the wild birds that had been obtained or observed in the Zoological Gardens at Giza near Cairo during the past ten years—156 species in all—a wonderful number for so small and frequented an area. Mr. Nicoll now records the visits of 16 more species to this much favoured locality, among which we find the name of the Ortolan (*Emberiza hortulana*), the Wood Sandpiper (*Totanus glareola*), and the Senegal Thick-knee (*Edicnemus senegalensis*). According to the writer's views there are two Hoopoes in Egypt. Besides the common form (*Upupa epops typica*), which passes through on migration, there is another form (*Upupa epops major*) resident in Lower Egypt, which is distinguished by its larger size and longer bill.

To his list of new additions Mr. Nicoll appends some notes and corrections on species included in the original list. Amongst these are remarks on *Sylvia subalpina albo-striata* and *Prinia gracilis striata*, two newly resuscitated sub-species.

41. *North on the Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds.*

[Nests and Eggs of Birds found breeding in Australia and Tasmania. By Alfred J. North, C.M.Z.S. Vol. ii. Part 3. Sydney, 1909.]

With much pleasure we record the issue of another Part of Mr. North's meritorious work on the nests and eggs of Australian Birds, which is continued in the same style as the preceding Parts*, and concludes the second volume. It contains an account of the remaining families of the Passeres, and of the first portion of the Picarians. As in the former Parts a description of every species is given, besides ample details concerning the nesting and eggs, while numerous good photographic illustrations are introduced in the text. The eggs of many little-known birds are figured in the plates, including those of all the three known species of Lyre-bird (*Menura*).

42. *Oates on new Burmese Pheasants.*

[On some new species of Silver-Pheasants. By E. W. Oates. Ann. Nat. Hist. ser. 8, vol. v. p. 162 (1910).]

Mr. Oates describes three "new species" of Silver-Pheasants from various districts of Burma—*Gennæus atlayi*, *G. haringtoni*, and *G. granti*. Mr. Oates should consult Prof. Ghigi's paper on the same subject (see above).

43. *Report of the South African Locust-Bureau.*

[Third Annual Report of the South African Central Locust Bureau. Edited by Chas. P. Lownsbury, Govt. Entomologist to the Cape of Good Hope. 8vo. Cape Town, 1909. 68 pp.]

As in other arid and semi-arid districts of the world, so in South Africa the "plague of locusts" is a source of constant injury and loss to the agriculturist. In order to coordinate the work of combating this plague and to secure common action in the agencies and methods employed, the various Governments of South Africa (not only those of the British Colonies but also those of German South-West Africa and

* See 'Ibis,' 1908, p. 189, and 1907, p. 359.

Mozambique) have combined to form a common Bureau with head-quarters at Pretoria, and this is their third Annual Report.

Various means have been employed for the purpose of destroying the swarms of these terrible insects but, so far as one can judge from the Report, the most efficacious agencies for this purpose are locust-eating birds.

The leading Locust-birds are undoubtedly the White Stork (*Ciconia alba*) and the Pratincole (*Glareola melanoptera*), which are generally known in South Africa as the Greater and the Smaller Locust-bird.

Other birds which devour large numbers of Locusts are the Kestrels (*Tinnunculus naumanni*, *T. rupicola*, and *T. rupicoloides*) and the Kite (*Milvus ægyptius*), while the White-bellied Stork (*Abdimia abdimii*), though a somewhat rare species, ranks very high in favour.

Starlings of all kinds, especially the Wattled Starling (*Dilophus carunculatus**), Guinea Fowls, and Francolins assist in the work of destruction.

The reports of the Committee urge the importance of the most careful protection by law of all the Locust-eating birds throughout South Africa, and insist that the laws on this subject, when enacted, should be strictly enforced.

44. Sharpe's Hand-list of Birds, Vol. V.

[A Hand-list of the Genera and Species of Birds. (Nomenclator Avium tum fossilium tum viventium.) By R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., Assistant Keeper, Department of Zoology, British Museum. Volume V. London, 1909.]

In January 1904, we wrote a notice of the fourth volume of Sharpe's 'Hand-list.' Most fortunately for the progress of our Science, Sharpe lived to complete this important work by the issue of the fifth and last volume, which is now before us. The Hand-list was planned and commenced in 1898, and the first volume published in 1899, so that it has occupied ten years of hard labour, having been composed

* See Selater & Stark, B. S. Afr. i. p. 24.

and written amid the pressure of other official work in the author's "private time."

In his preface to the present volume Sharpe makes the following out-spoken statement of his views on the new system of "trinomials," which deserves attention, even if it may be not quite agreeable to the new school of Systematists.

"Some exception has been taken to my recognition as species of all the forms described as subspecies or races with trinomial names. My views on this subject have often been stated, and as for trinomials I look upon the system as destructive. I consider that the burden imposed upon Zoologists who follow this method for the naming of their specimens will become too heavy, and that the system will fall by its own weight. That races or subspecies of birds exist in nature no one can deny, but, to my mind, a binomial title answers every purpose."

In the preface to the fifth volume of Sharpe's 'Hand-list' the total number of the known species of Birds is calculated as 18,939, and the genera as 2,810. In 1871 when George Robert Gray finished his 'Hand-list' he admitted 2,915 genera and 11,162 species.

Having begun with the lowest birds—an arrangement which we by no means approve of—Sharpe has placed what he considered to be the most highly organized birds in his last volume. The series of Acromyodians, to which it is devoted, is concluded by the Corvidæ and their allies; these, following Newton and Parker, Sharpe considered to be the most highly developed of the Class of Birds, though the reasons for assigning to them this high position have never been very clearly explained.

In concluding this short notice of one of the most important works in our branch of Zoological Science that has lately appeared, we need hardly enlarge on its value to the systematic worker who wants to find his references easily. There is an Index to every volume except the first. But there ought also to be a General Index to all the five volumes.

This would render the work much more generally useful, especially as the present indexes are not always quite reliable. A critical correspondent has favoured us with a list of 34 generic names which are used in one or more of the 27 volumes of the British Museum 'Catalogue of Birds,' but are *not* to be found in any of the Indexes of the 'Hand-list.' As it may be useful to some workers we subjoin the list.

List of Generic Names quoted in the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum,' but not mentioned in the Indexes to the 'Hand-list.'

Aptornis, Arinia, Atrichia, Cassicus, Certhiola, Cerorhyncha, Chauna, Chirocylla, Chloris, Cichlopsis, Cymodroma, Dissura, Doleromyia, Eucorystes, Klais, Lepidolarynx, Melanobucco, Microglossus, Monacha, Myiodiotes, Nyroca, Ortyx, Oxyrhamphus, Palamedea, Perissoglossa, Phonipara, Picathartes, Pinarolæma, Procnopis, Pteroclorus, Scotornis, Sphenoproctus, Stellula, Trichostoma.

We may also remark that it would have been much better to have put the Family Names in the running titles of the volumes instead of the useless repetition of "Genera and Species of Birds" throughout.

45. *Van Oort on the Gerygone and Eurylæmus of Java.*

[Note XIII. On *Gerygone* and *Eurylaimus* Species from Java and Sumatra. By Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Notes Leyd. Mus. xxxi. p. 207.]

The examination of recently received specimens from Java has convinced Dr. Van Oort that the *Gerygone* and *Eurylæmus* of that island shew slight differences from their representatives in other parts of the Eastern Archipelago. He therefore proposes to separate the Javan form of the first species under the name *Gerygone modigliani jacobsoni* and to restrict the name *Eurylæmus javanicus* to the Javan form of the second species, calling the form from Sumatra, Banka, Biliton, Borneo, and Malacca *Eurylæmus javanicus harterti*.

46. *Van Oort on Birds from the Netherlands.*

[Note XIV. Report on Birds from the Netherlands received from 1st September 1908 till 1st September 1909. By Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Tom. cit. p. 211.]

Dr. Van Oort is engaged in the praiseworthy task of forming a collection of the birds of Holland for the Leyden Museum. In this memoir he reports a year's progress, during which he has acquired 675 skins. Among these there are examples of two species new to the Collection—*Megalestris skua* and *Serinus serinus*. Fourteen other important species are stated to have received additional representatives.

47. *Van Oort on a new Parrot.*

[Note VI. On a new form of the Genus *Psephotus*. By Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Op. cit. xxxii. p. 71.]

A "subspecies" of *Psephotus chrysopterygius*, described as *P. c. blaauwi*, is based on a specimen received from Mr. Blaauw, who has other living examples of the same form in his Aviaries. They are believed to have come from Port Darwin, North Australia.

48. *Van Oort on Birds from Southern and South-western New Guinea.*

[Nova Guinea. Résultats de l'Expédition scientifique Néerlandaise à la Nouvelle-Guinée. Vol. ix. Zoologie, Livr. i. Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Birds from South-western and Southern New Guinea. Leiden: Brill, 1909.]

This interesting memoir gives us an account of the collection of birds recently made by Mr. Koch and Dr. H. A. Lorentz on the coast of southern and south-western New Guinea. In 1907, Dr. Lorentz obtained a good series of about 480 skins, principally at various stations on the Noord River, which was ascended to a height of more than 2,500 metres. He also visited Merauke, near the southernmost point of Dutch New Guinea. Both these localities are shown in Stanford's map of New Guinea (Compendium of

Geography, Australasia, ii. p. 376) and an outline sketch of the North River is given in Dr. Van Oort's article.

Altogether about 170 species are enumerated in the present memoir, and the dates and localities of every specimen are exactly set forth, with critical notes when required. The greater number of the birds are old friends, but two species and six subspecies are described as new—namely, *Clytoceyx rex imperator*, *Arses telescopthalmus harterti*, *Sericornis arfakiana nouhuysi*, *Malurus lorentzi*, *Pitohui* (scr. *Rhectes*) *aruensis nigropectus*, *Pitohui incertus*, *Ptilotis erythropleura lorentzi*, and *Entomyza cyanotis griseigularis*. The prizes of the collection are two adult males of *Xanthomelus ardens*, of which only the imperfect typical specimen, now at Genoa, was previously known. This gorgeous bird is now well figured (Plate iii, p. 100). A text-figure (p. 105) represents the extremely remarkable convolutions of the trachea in *Manucodia atra* and *Phonygama keraudreni*.

49. *Woosnam's Itinerary of the Ruwenzori Expedition.*

[Zoological Results of the Ruwenzori Expedition, 1905–1906. Itinerary. By R. B. Woosnam. Trans. Zool. Soc. London, Vol. xix. Part i. 20 pp. 4to.]

The Zoological Society of London, always in the front when good scientific work is to be done, has, as has been already announced, undertaken the publication of the zoological results of the Ruwenzori Expedition of 1905–1906, and has appropriated the nineteenth volume of their quarto Transactions to this purpose. In accordance with the traditions of the Society there can be no doubt that this task will be thoroughly well performed, nor will there be any delay in its execution, as the first Part of the work is now before us.

After a short preface by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, who, as we all know, was not only the originator and organizer of this successful enterprise, but also raised, among his many friends, the funds required for its accomplishment, we find an excellent and well-written "Itinerary" of the

Expedition, prepared by its leader, Mr. R. B. Woosnam. As this Itinerary contains some good general remarks on the birds of Ruwenzori, we may fairly claim it as an ornithological publication which deserves notice in 'The Ibis,' although the special memoir on the birds collected during the expedition (prepared by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant) has not yet been issued.

We need not on the present occasion follow Mr. Woosnam in his narrative of the journey to Ruwenzori, nor is it necessary to refer to his excellent disquisitions on the Clouds, Glaciers, Rainfall and other physical features of this remarkable elevated ridge between Lake Albert and Lake Edward. But we wish to call the reader's attention to the author's division of Ruwenzori into six zones, characterized mainly by the leading features of their vegetation, and to his lists of the principal forms of bird-life met with in each zone. The zones are named : (1) The 'Grass-zone' (3,000 to 6,500 ft.) : (2) The 'Forest-zone' (6,500 to 8,500 ft.), in both of which animal life is abundant : (3) The 'Bamboo-zone,' where the impenetrable jungle renders it less numerous, but which is the abode of Johnston's Touraco (*Gallirex johnstoni*) : (4) The Tree-heath and Moss-zone, the home of the Alpine Flycatcher (*Cryptolopha alpina*) and Stuhlmann's Sun-bird (*Cinnyris stuhlmanni*), which is entirely confined to a belt between 10,000 and 11,000 ft. : (5) The *Senecio*- and *Lobelia*-zone (12,500 to 14,500 ft.), in which seven Birds are named as indigenous. Amongst these the gorgeous and absolutely peculiar Sunbird *Nectarinia dartmouthi* is extremely plentiful.

In the Snow-zone (above 14,500 ft.) no Mammals or Birds are met with. No Palæarctic forms of Bird-life are found on Ruwenzori, but there are many Alpine genera of Plants.

Full details about the Bird-life on Ruwenzori will, no doubt, be given in Mr. Ogilvie-Grant's memoir on the birds collected during the Expedition, to the appearance of which we look forward with great interest.